



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

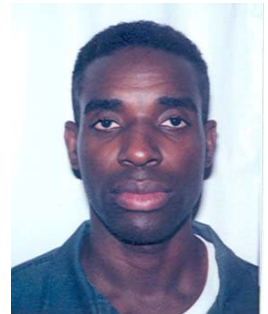
News Release

August 25, 2005

ICE DEPORTS BELIZEAN MAN CONVICTED OF FIRST-DEGREE MURDER IN COOK COUNTY

CHICAGO — A Belizean man convicted of first-degree murder in Cook County for shooting a man to death was deported Tuesday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Lester Gillett, 35, aka Therence Rivers, Lester Wayne, Lester Smith, Ashmex Young, Eviane Neal, and Jahree, was deported Aug. 23 to Belize City, Belize, under the escort of two government officers.



Gillett first entered the United States in 1988 on a six-month visitor's visa and remained in the country illegally after his visa expired. He pleaded guilty in April 1997 to one count of first-degree murder in Cook County Circuit Court for shooting and killing Mark Anderson. He was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

ICE officers encountered Gillett in the Joliet Correctional Center and placed a detainer on him to ensure that he would be turned over to ICE for deportation upon his release from prison. Gillett came into ICE custody in March 2005 and was held in the Kenosha County Jail.

"As a convicted first-degree murderer, Gillett represents a threat to public safety," said ICE Field Office Director Debbie Achim. "We help make our communities and our country more secure with every criminal alien we deport." Achim oversees ICE's Detention and Removal Operations program for a six-state area which includes: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Wisconsin.

ICE formally removed more than 160,000 aliens nationally in fiscal year 2004. More than half of those were criminal aliens. The ICE Chicago office removed more than 6,100 aliens last year, a 28-percent increase over the previous year.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.